

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Western District of New York*

*Further inquiries: (716)843-5814*

---

*138 Delaware Avenue*  
*Buffalo, New York 14202*

# **PROJECT EXILE PRESS RELEASE**

April 19, 2004

**RE: UNITED STATES v. RICHARD VELTRE**

Michael A. Battle, the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced today that Richard Veltre, age 49, of 423 Cedarwood Terrace, Rochester, New York, pleaded guilty in front of the Honorable Michael A. Telesca, United States District Court Judge, to being a convicted felon in possession of firearms in violation of 18 U.S.C. §922(g)(1), which carries a maximum of three years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine, and to making false statement to the Internal Revenue Service in violation of 26 U.S.C. §7206(5), which carries a maximum of three years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who is handling the case, stated that Richard Veltre had previously been convicted of felonies on October 3, 1978, in the United States District Court, District of Connecticut, and on December 8, 1986, in the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, State of Florida. From April 2001 to July 2003, Veltre then knowingly possessed five firearms.

Further, on November 13, 2001, Veltre submitted an offer of compromise which was accepted to the Internal Revenue Service regarding federal tax liabilities he owed for the years 1988 and 1989. In his offer of compromise, Veltre intentionally failed to disclose various assets he owned, including a house located at 423 Cedarwood Terrace, a 1989 Ferrari, and a substantial amount of cash.

It is anticipated that Veltre will receive a sentence of 51 months in prison when he is sentenced.

The Indictment and guilty pleas were the culmination of a Project Exile investigation on the part of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Michael Lawandus, the Internal Revenue Service under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Anne Marie Coons, Criminal Investigation Division, and the Rochester Police Department, under the direction of Police Chief Robert Duffy

Project Exile is a special initiative announced in the City of Rochester on

September 29, 1998 to end the culture of violence in the Rochester community. Under Project Exile, cases involving illegal firearms are prosecuted in Federal Court to take advantage of the stiffer penalties under the Federal gun laws.

Sentencing for Richard Veltre is scheduled for July 7, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Honorable Michael A. Telesca.

\* \* \*